

Remarks

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections of the claims, as well as the objection to the disclosure, in view of the remarks and amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. Claims 1-2 and 21-43 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claim 3 is amended. As a result, the pending claims are claims 3-20. The amendments are fully supported by the specification as filed. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

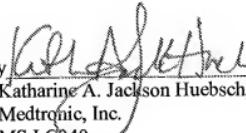
Applicants thank Examiner Wallenhorst for indicating at page 2 of the Advisory Action that the present paper would be entered if filed without requesting amendment to the above-identified specification to reflect that the present application claims the benefit of prior-filed U.S. provisional patent Application No. 60/548,438, filed February 27, 2004. As Examiner Wallenhorst pointed out in the Advisory Action, Applicants' Amendment and Response filed December 21, 2007, which included such Amendment to the Specification, could not be entered because Applicants' Renewed Petition to Accept an Unintentionally Delayed Claim for the Benefit of a Prior-filed Application has not yet been reviewed by the Office of Petitions. However, at page 2 of the Advisory Action Examiner Wallenhorst stated “[i]f only the claim amendments [to claims 3-20, as amended herein] were submitted in a separate response without the amendment to the specification, the application would be in condition for allowance.” Thus, as suggested by Examiner Wallenhorst, Applicants' respectfully request that the present paper be entered. Applicants' further respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and earnestly request notification to that effect. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 763-505-8423 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit

Account No. 13-2546.

Respectfully submitted,

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